

**Religion says:** Jesus is a teacher, if I follow his teaching God then has to bless me.

**But the Gospel says:** Jesus is a mighty Savior and because of what he has done for me I can therefore follow his example in my own humility and do as he would for others.

### **The Unpardonable Sin: A warning and a promise:**

28 Truly I tell you, people can be forgiven all their sins and every slander they utter, 29 but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit will never be forgiven; they are guilty of an eternal sin.” 30 He said this because they were saying, “He has an impure spirit.”

- They’re being warned; clearly they hadn’t committed it yet.
- The “sin” is to reject the witness of the Spirit of who Jesus really claims himself to be.
- God says, I can forgive any sin, but I can’t forgive any sin at all if your not willing to see you need forgiveness through Christ.

### **The only family that matters:**

31 Then Jesus’ mother and brothers arrived. Standing outside, they sent someone in to call him. 32 A crowd was sitting around him, and they told him, “Your mother and brothers are outside looking for you.”33 “Who are my mother and my brothers?” he asked.34 Then he looked at those seated in a circle around him and said, “Here are my mother and my brothers! 35 Whoever does God’s will is my brother and sister and mother.”

- The primacy of Jesus family relationships has to do with one’s willingness to obey God’s will.
- God willingly adopts all who come to Christ for forgiveness; this is the eternal family over which Christ is the head.



The story of the King... who came to serve.

### **Part 9:**

## **Bad Theories And The Paradox of Jesus Life** Mark Chapter 3 verses 20-35

### **Theory 1 of who Jesus might be:**

Then Jesus entered a house, and again a crowd gathered, so that he and his disciples were not even able to eat. 21 When his family heard about this, they went to take charge of him, for they said, “He is out of his mind.”

### **Theory 2 of who Jesus might be:**

22 And the teachers of the law who came down from Jerusalem said, “He is possessed by Beelzebub! By the prince of demons he is driving out demons.”

**In the Bible** people either say of him he’s a lunatic, or he’s lying, or He is who he says he is, He’s LORD over all.

**Contemporary people** do not want to concede that Jesus is the unique Son of God that we have to build our lives around. But they also acknowledge that neither is Jesus a liar or a fool.

**Why?** We’re told we cannot trust the New Testament account about his miracles because they were added in later.

### 3 Reasons Why The Miraculous Jesus Account Is Not A Myth

1. The NT accounts of Jesus life were written while the eyewitnesses were still alive.

- Paul's letters (13) were written within 15-35 years of Jesus Death and Resurrection.
- 1 Corinthians Chapter 15 Paul confirms 500 people at one time witnessed the risen Christ.

2. The content of the NT Gospels are to counter-productive to have been the bi-product of later editing by myth makers.

- His families shame at rejecting Him.
- Peter and the Disciples shame at abandoning him.
- The women as both eye-witnesses and more courageous

3. 2000 years ago no one wrote fiction in a way that could be compared to the Bible's style.

- C.S. Lewis World Literature Expert Quote:

“I have been reading poems, romances and vision literature, legends and myths all my life. I know what they're like and none of them are like the Gospels. Of the Gospel texts there are only two possible views. Either this is historical reporting or else some unknown ancient writer, without known predecessors or successors suddenly anticipated the technique of modern novelistic, realistic narrative, 2000 years ahead of when it happened. The reader who doesn't see this is simply not learned to read.”

### Teaching in parables:

23 So Jesus called them over to him and began to speak to them in parables: “How can Satan drive out Satan? 24 If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. 25 If a house is divided against itself, that house cannot stand. 26 And if Satan opposes himself and is divided, he cannot stand; his end has come. 27 In fact, no one can enter a strong man's house without first tying him up. Then he can plunder the strong man's house.

- A general never wins a war by attacking his own flanks
- Jesus has the audacity to say He's stronger than Satan.

### The great paradox of Jesus life:

- Jesus is stronger than the Devil yet at the end of his life he is the One who is bound
- He is the One walking to a cross not a throne
- What we see is the “Divine Judge” receiving unto himself “Divine judgment”
- Ultimate strength is when the LORD of the universe allows himself to be weak, so that he can destroy evil without destroying us.

Paul writes in Romans 12:

17 Do not repay anyone evil for evil. .... 20 On the contrary: “If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head.” 21 Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good. Romans 12:17,20-21

**Remember this:** religion says you obey God then you're accepted.

**The Gospel says:** you accept what Jesus has done for you, and you want to obey.